

# Build Community Android Distribution and Ensure the Quality

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connect your device to application

**0xlab**

$0x1ab = 16^2 + 16 \times 10 + 11 = 427$   
(founded on April 27, 2009)

**0xlab** is another Hexspeak.



# About Me

- (1) Come from Taiwan
- (2) Contributor of Android  
Open Source Project (AOSP)
- (3) Developer, Linaro
- (4) Contributed to GNU  
Classpath / Kaffe, Linux  
internationalization (i18n),  
Openmoko



# Commercial Partners of Oxlab

## ARM / Linaro

Contribute to Linaro Android since the first line of code

## AzureWave

Build wireless networking & image processing solutions

## Mediatek

Android based consumer products

## Open Embedded Software Foundation

Contribute to the reference implementation

<http://Oxlab.org/partners.html>

Eventually, partners can benefit from open source efforts and our experience.



# Agenda

- (1) Build Android distribution
- (2) Lesson learned from AOSP
- (3) Ensure the Quality
- (4) Bring enhancements back to Community





# Build Android Distribution based on non typical open source projects



# The reason why we built community Android Distribution:

Initially, we just wanted to enable wireless connectivity features on Android for our hardware partners.

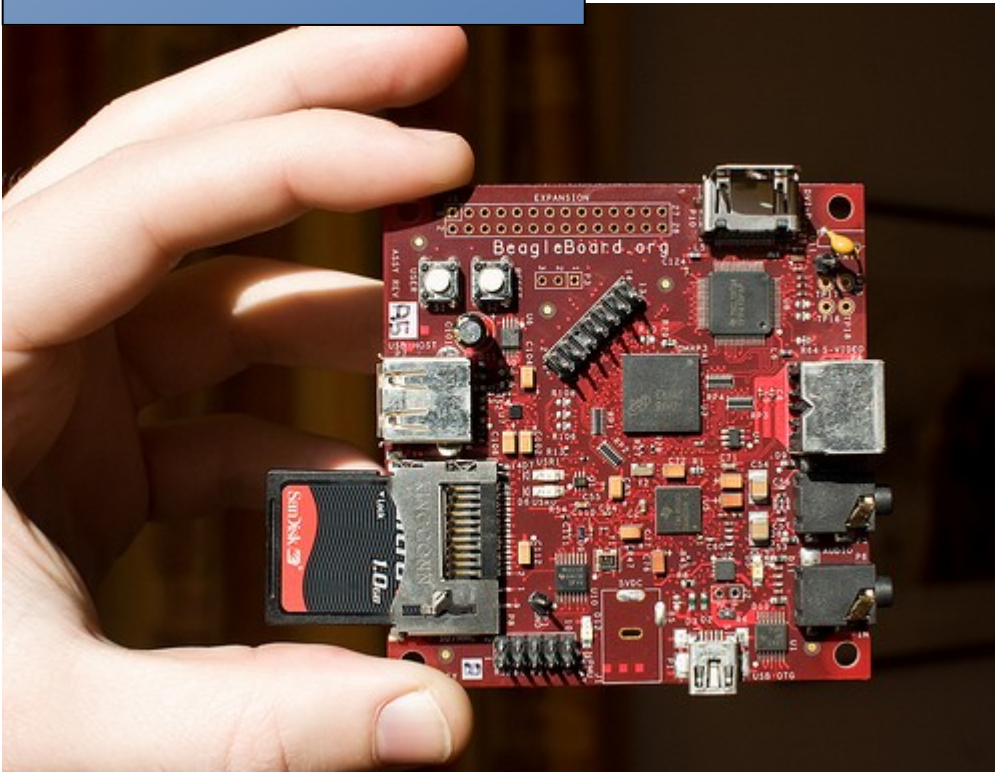
But, we never thought that it was difficult to do things efficiently.





# Oxdroid: enhanced Android distribution

Beagleboard



DevKit8000



We suffered from performance and usability issues in AOSP. Oxdroid is basically the environment where we can develop and experiment.



# What does Oxdroid deliver?

- Hardware enablement: Beagleboard (TI OMAP3), Pandaboard (TI OMAP4), Snowball (ST-Ericsson Ux500; on-going)
- Provide full source code for HAL
- Usability: software cursor, window manager fix, large screen tweaks, network connectivity fix
- Performance: ARM specific optimizations, graphics enhancement
- Features: Bluetooth HID (keyboard/mouse), external modem, 3D effects, customized Launcher



But, Oxlabs is not really making yet another Android distribution. We wish to help community.

Oxdroid is just a *testbed* (or reference implementation), and the valuable changes should be merged in upstream or other community projects.



# Strategy and Policy

- open source efforts to improve AOSP
- We focus on small-but-important area of Android.
  - **toolchain, libc, dynamic linker, skia, software GL, system libraries, HAL, UX**
- Develop system utilities for Android
  - **benchmark, black-box testing tool, validation infrastructure**
- Feature driven development
  - **Faster boot/startup time, Bluetooth profile, visual enhancements**
- Submit and share changes to...
  - **AOSP, CyanogenMod, Android-x86, and Linaro**



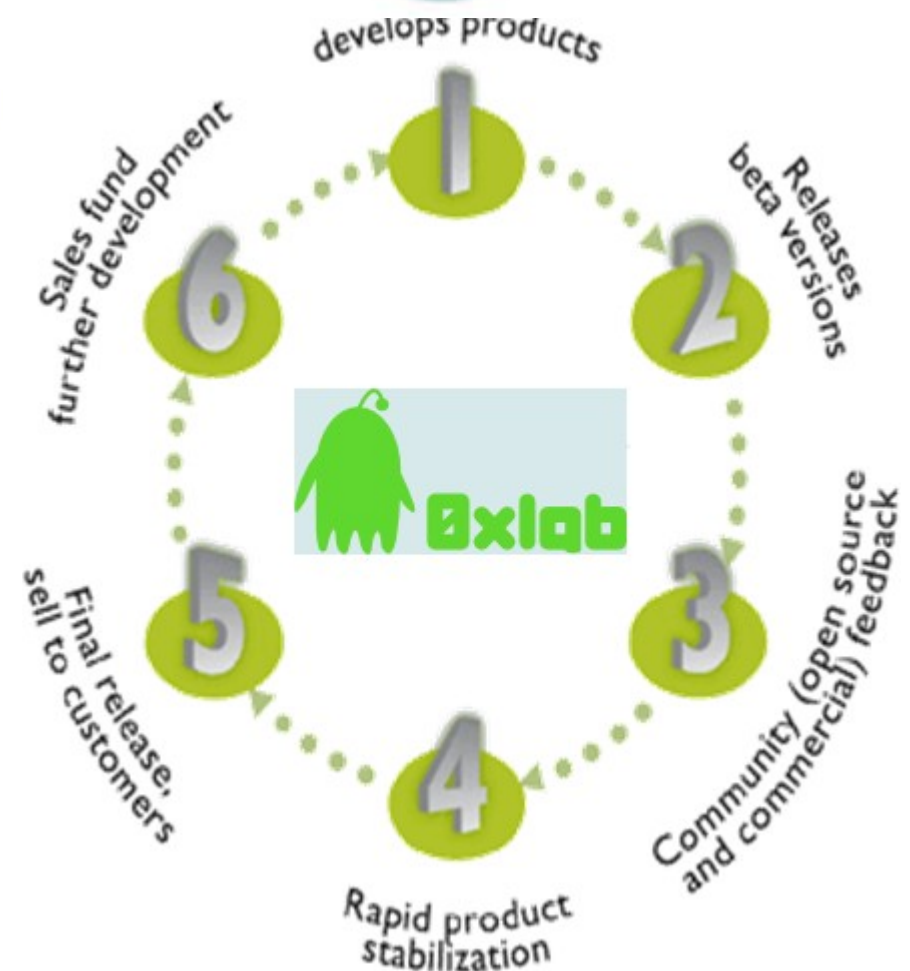


# Working Model by 0xlab

Rowboat

CyanogenMod

Android-x86





# Lesson Learned from AOSP





Let's go Upstream!  
Unfortunately, contributing to AOSP  
is an \_\_art\_\_.

You never know how Google thinks of your  
patches exactly, even through Gerrit (code review system).



# Problems We faced

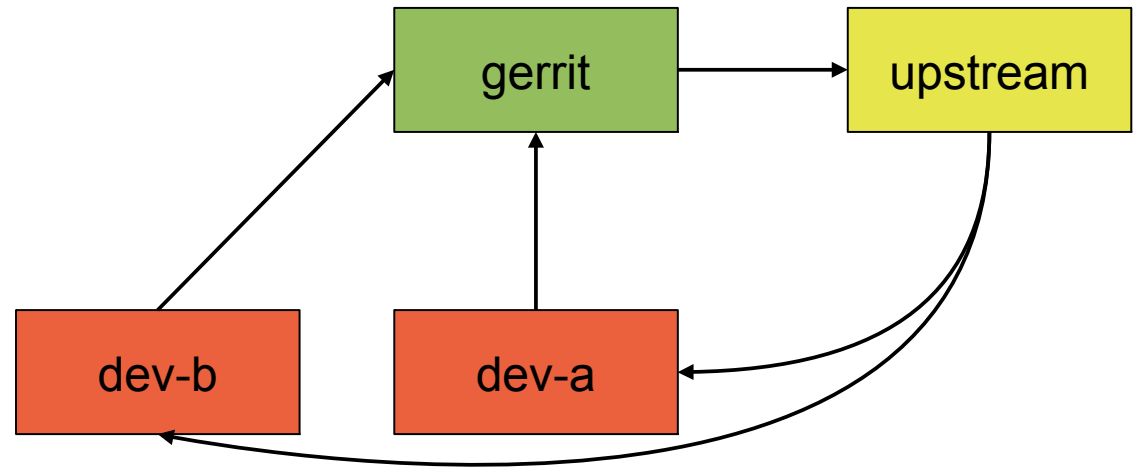
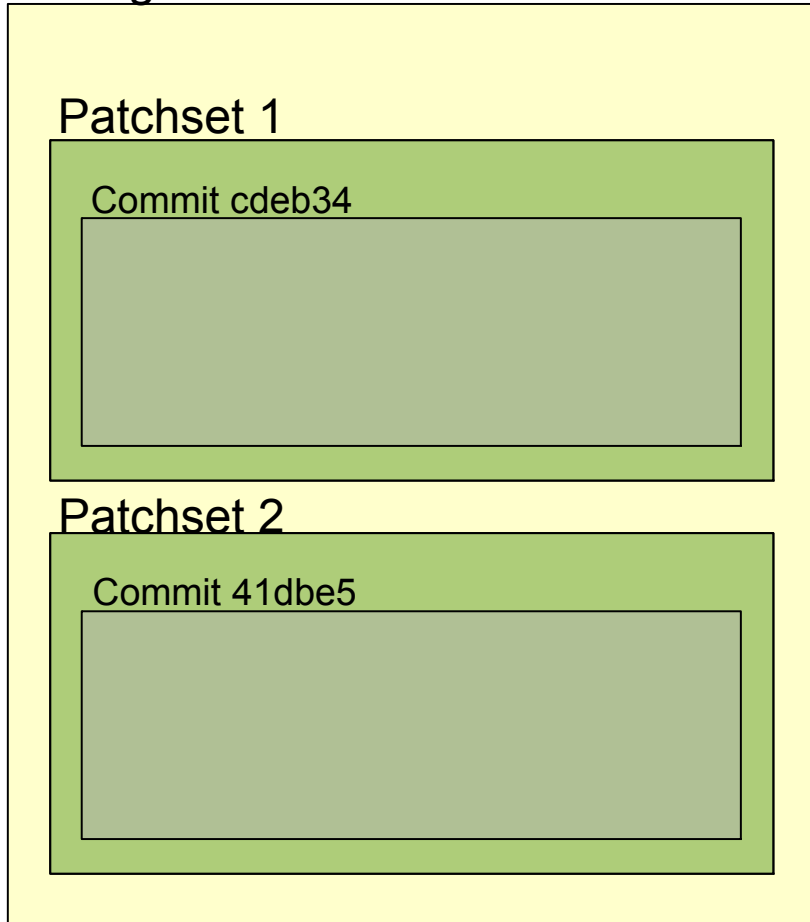
- AOSP looks like “An Open Source Pretender”
- No public roadmap
  - **Therefore, we ignore the modifications against Android framework.**
- The merged changes usually show up in next 1 or 2 public release.
  - **It is really hard to introduce/track the relevant changes.**
- Not clear discussions on android-contrib mailing-list. Sometimes, you have to have private communications to Google engineers.
- Version control / Code Review on invisible repositories (internal and far-away GIT tree)





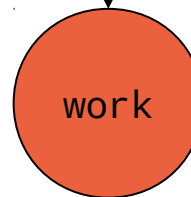
# Change represented in Gerrit

Change 123



Create  
Local  
Branch

```
% git checkout -b topic-branch
```



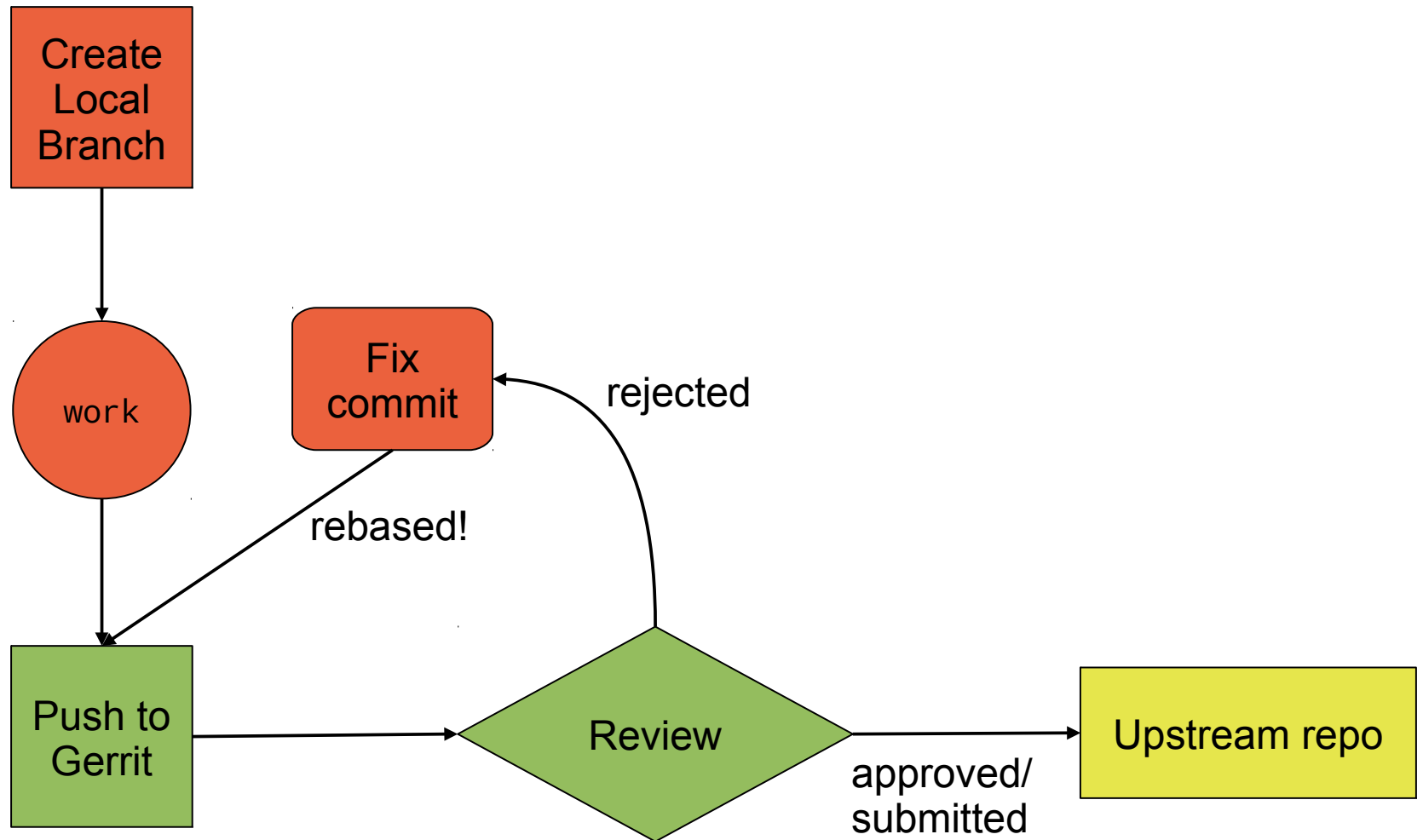
Push  
to  
Gerrit

```
% git push gerrit \
HEAD:refs/for/master
```



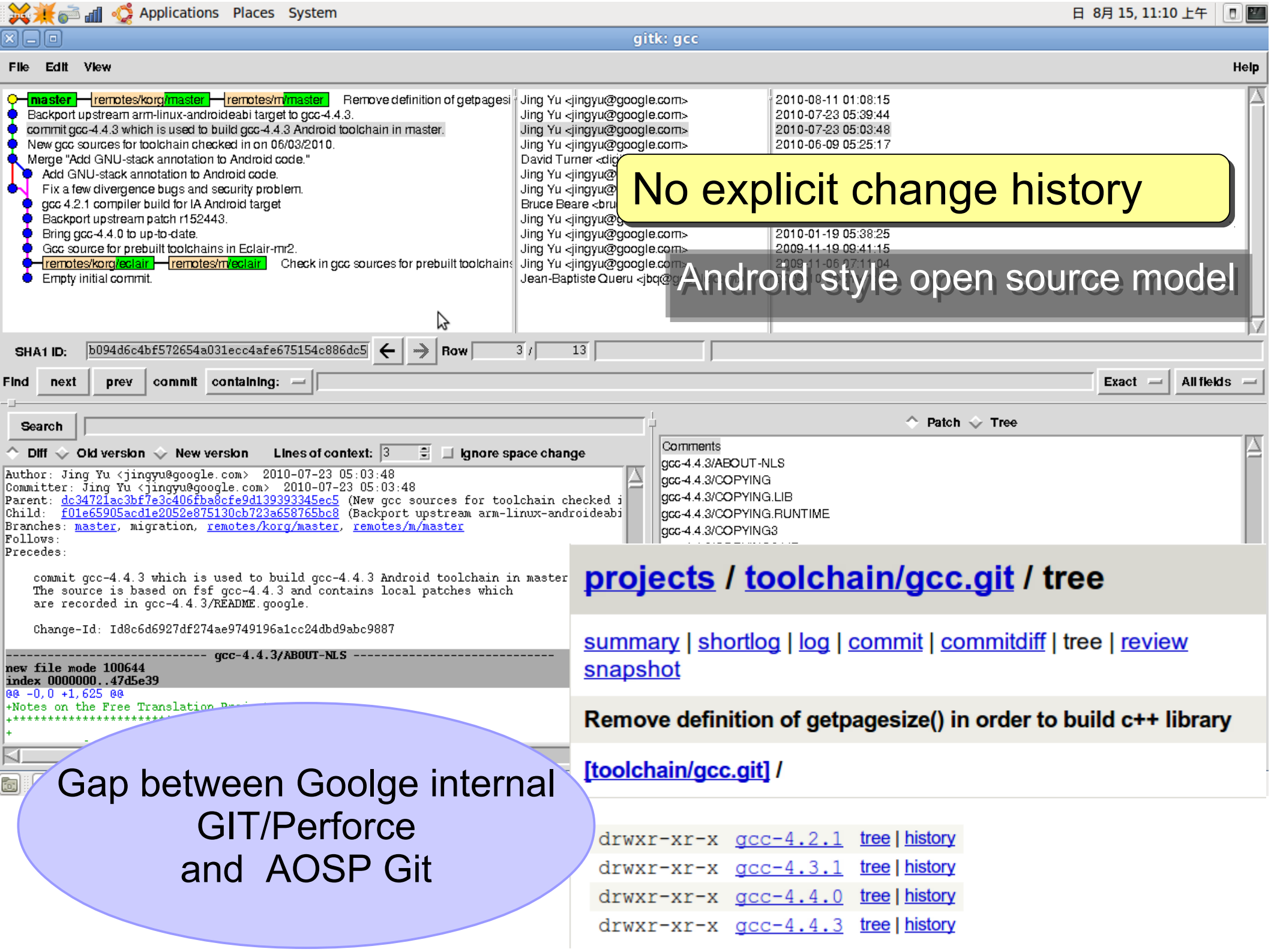
Google provides the great code review tool for AOSP, but...

# Flow of AOSP submitted changes



Here “upstream” means AOSP master and Google internal tree.





No explicit change history

Android style open source model

[projects](#) / [toolchain/gcc.git](#) / tree

[summary](#) | [shortlog](#) | [log](#) | [commit](#) | [commitdiff](#) | [tree](#) | [review snapshot](#)

Remove definition of getpagesize() in order to build c++ library

[\[toolchain/gcc.git\]](#) /

drwxr-xr-x	<a href="#">gcc-4.2.1</a>	<a href="#">tree</a>   <a href="#">history</a>
drwxr-xr-x	<a href="#">gcc-4.3.1</a>	<a href="#">tree</a>   <a href="#">history</a>
drwxr-xr-x	<a href="#">gcc-4.4.0</a>	<a href="#">tree</a>   <a href="#">history</a>
drwxr-xr-x	<a href="#">gcc-4.4.3</a>	<a href="#">tree</a>   <a href="#">history</a>

# After Gingerbread, it gets much clear for toolchain part

```
prebuilt/  
commit 81cce608ab19dcd0aaf7d08d57a4460229e43c45  
Author: Jing Yu <jingyu@google.com>  
Date: Tue Dec 14 10:55:23 2010 -0800
```

Patched toolchain to fix a few gcc and binutils bugs.


Sources to build this toolchain are listed on arm-eabi-4.4.3/SOURCES

```
linux-x86/toolchain/arm-eabi-4.4.3/SOURCES
```

```
build/ synced to  
commit 4cc02faaa7e8828f9458b1828a6f85e7791ae2aa  
Author: Jim Huang <jserv@0xlab.org>  
Date: Fri Aug 20 23:30:37 2010 +0800
```

And rollback the following 3 patches.

```
commit de263c26a7680529baca731c003bc58b68d72511  
Author: Jing Yu <jingyu@google.com>  
Date: Thu Aug 12 15:52
```



Although we can check git log, we  
still have no idea why they changed

# Observed AOSP Working Model

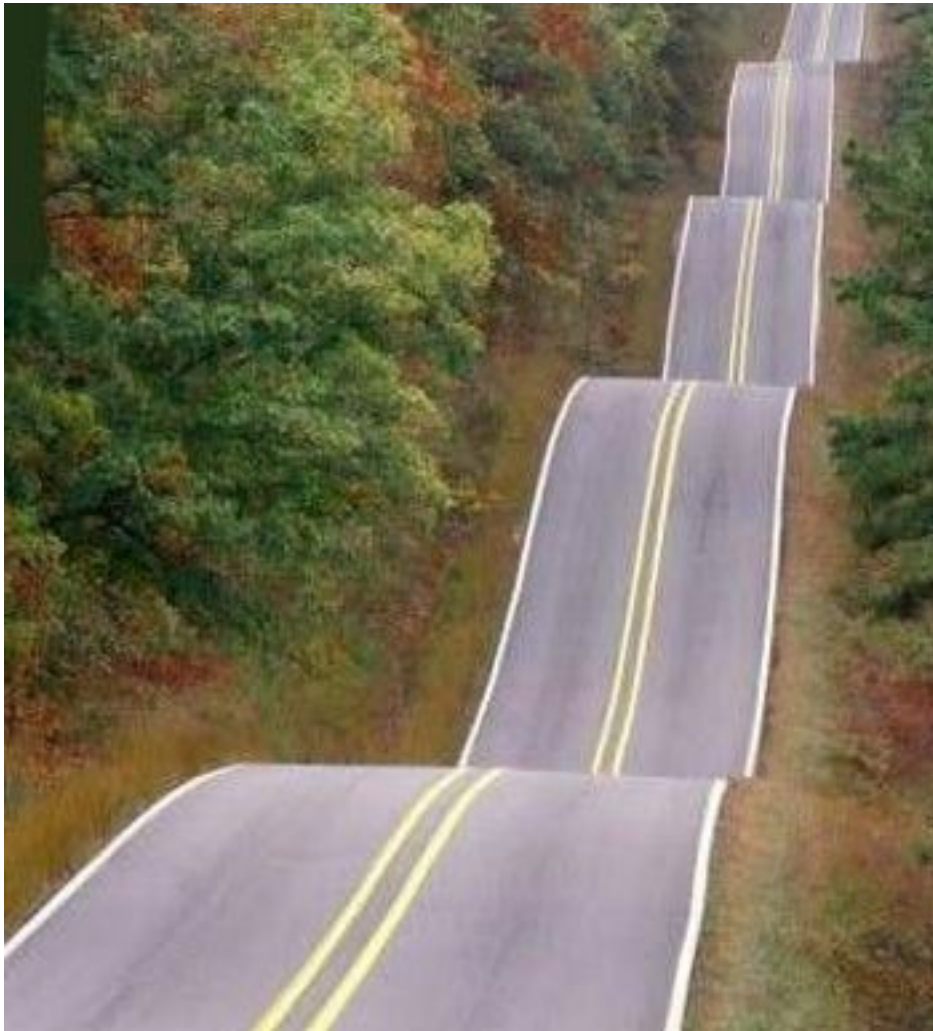
- “master” branch in Android is the bridge between AOSP and Google internal tree. There are many contributions merged from companies, organizations, and individuals. But no efficient code review available for non-existing repositories. And, only few Google engineers do review changes.
- Master branch = the latest AOSP + Partial changes by Google (bug-fixes from internal tree)
  - **Not fully verified codebase.**
- The best hints are the opinions written by Google engineers inside Gerrit.
  - **Send patches if possible**



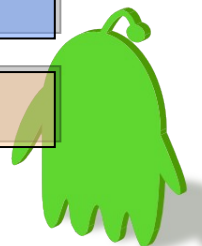
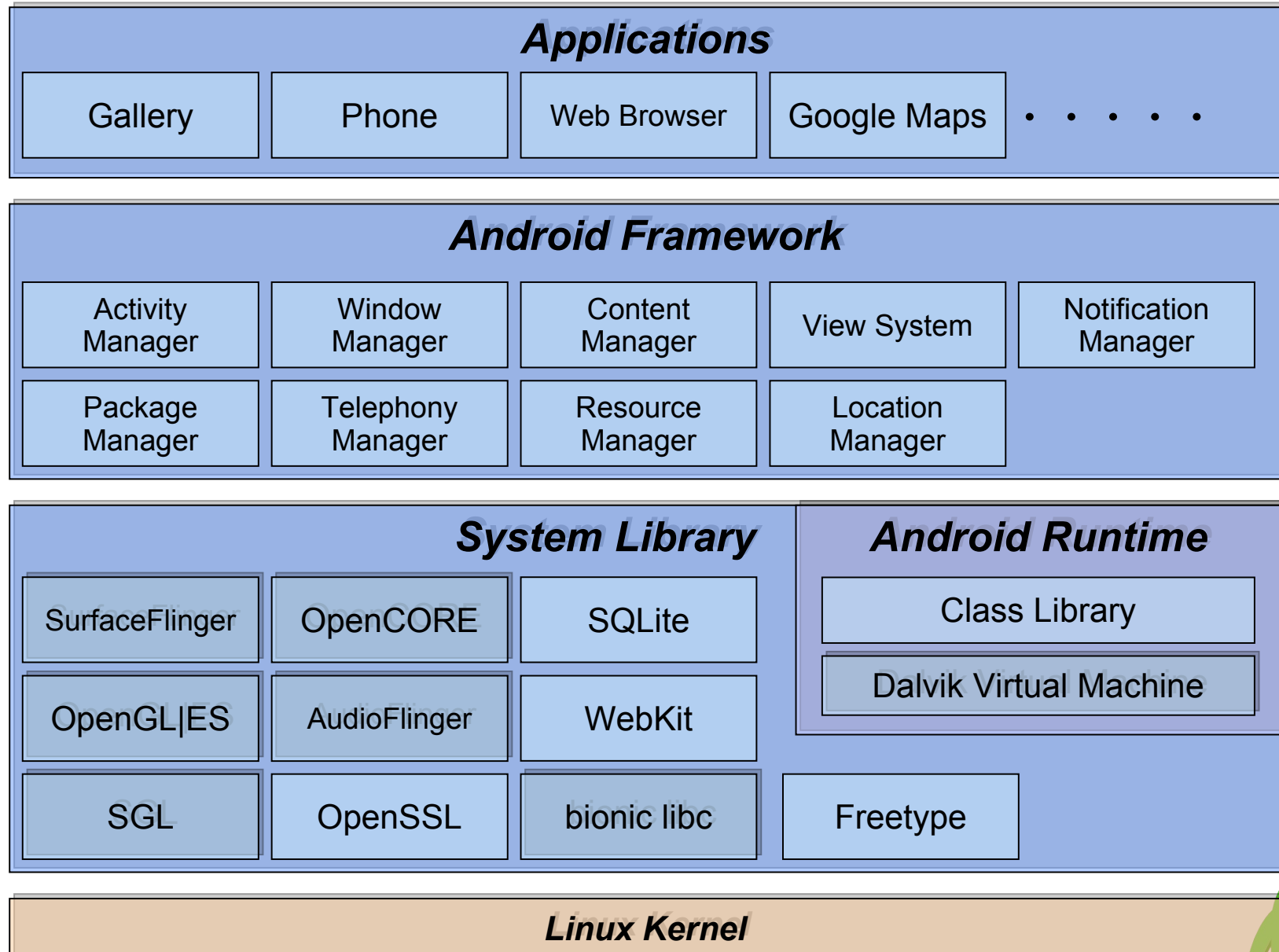
# My interpretation of Android:

Hardware is Revolution;  
Software is basically  
Evolution;

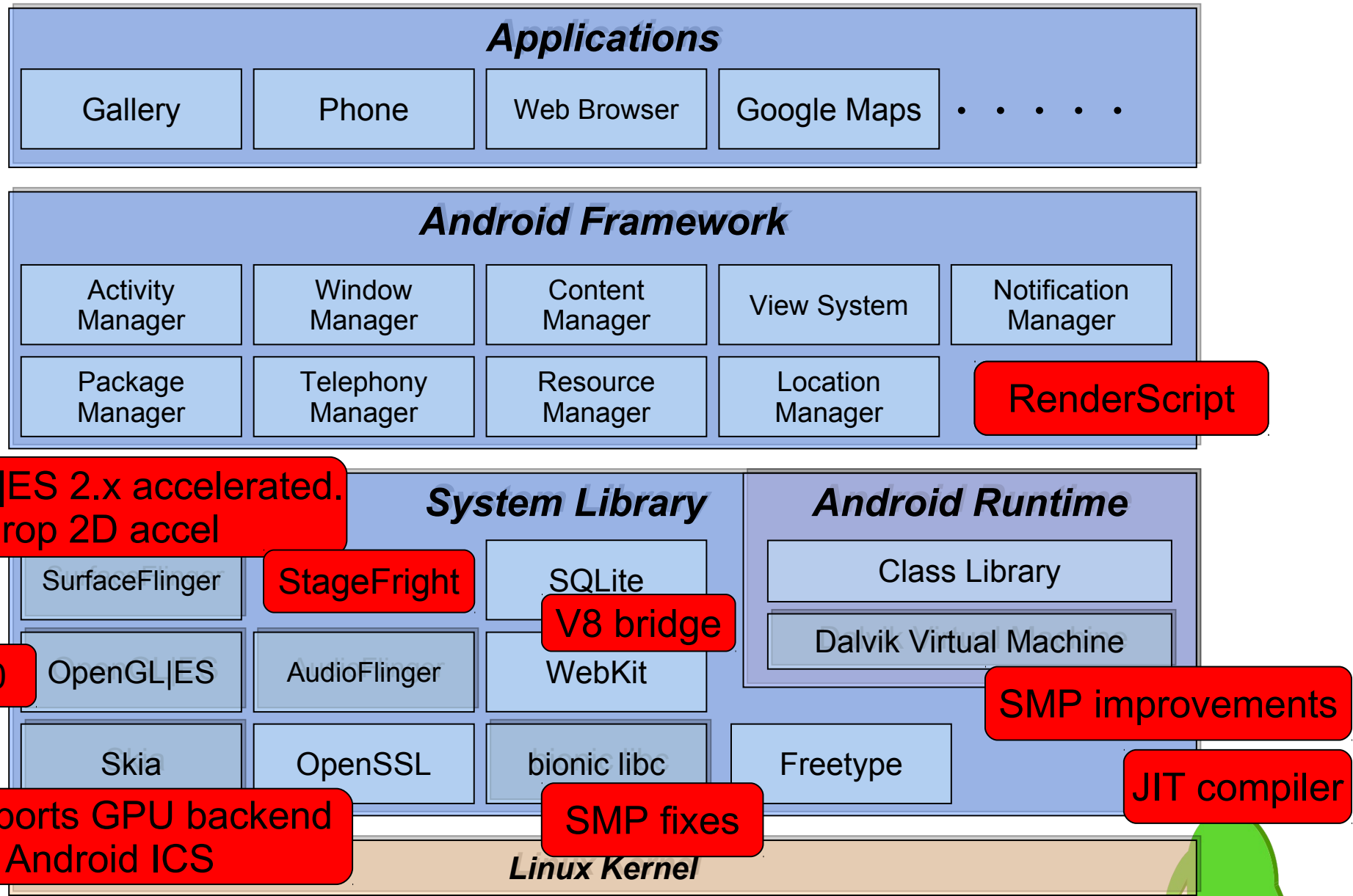
Android is Hardware-driven  
Software Revolution



# Functional View (Android 1.5)



# Functional View (Android 2.3)



The overall design is consistent, but the current model prevents from diverse community contributions.



# AOSP statistics for Gingerbread (Dec 2010)

■ 4204	google.com	■ 17	openbossa.org
■ 1354	android.com	■ 11	nxp.com
■ 98	sonyericsson.com	■ 11	linux.org.tw
■ 71	gmail.com	■ 10	ti.com
■ 39	codeaurora.org	■ 10	acer.com.tw
■ 39	samsung.com	■ 8	themaw.net
■ 38	intel.com	■ 8	garmin.com
■ 32	nokia.com	■ 7	snpe.rs
■ 32	holtmann.org	■ 7	motorola.com
■ 29	<b>0xlab.org</b>	■ 7	mc.pp.se
■ 25	trusted-logic.com	■ 7	googlemail.com

The number are commits since Froyo release.

However, the valuable changes from community such as CyanogenMod are usually absent due to long-time review process.





# Ensure the Quality

when building custom Android distribution and  
merging changes from community



Mission in our development:

# Improve UX in SoC

UX = User Experience

SoC = Integrated Computing Anywhere



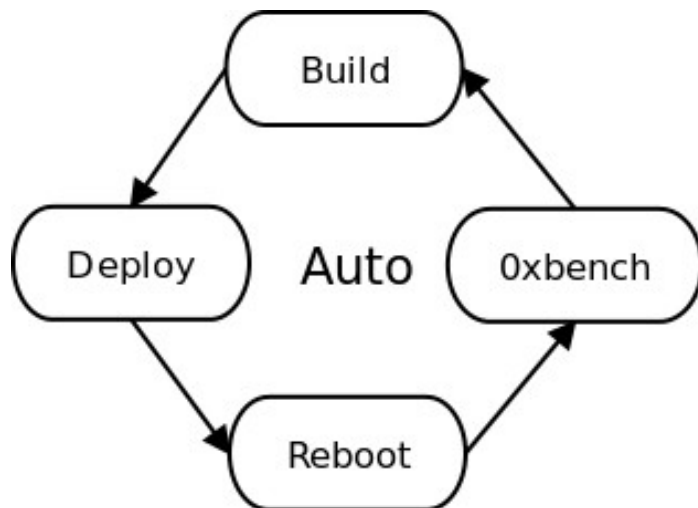
# Quality in custom Android Distribution

- 0xlab delivers the advantages of open source software and development.
  - **Quality relies on two factors: continuous development + strong user feedback**
- Several utilities are developed to ensure the quality and released as open source software.
  - **0xbench** (Android benchmarking tool)
  - **ASTER** (Android System Testing Environment and Runtime)
  - **LAVA** (Linaro Automated Validation Architecture)
- In the meanwhile, performance is improved by several patches against essential components.



# LAVA: Automated Validation Infrastructure for Android

Android benchmark running on **LAVA**.  
Automated Validation flow includes  
from deploy, then reboot, testing,  
benchmark running, and result submit.



Android support on LAVA

<https://wiki.linaro.org/Platform/Validation/LAVA>

Android related commands in LAVA:

- \* `deploy_linaro_android_image`
- \* `boot_linaro_android_image`
- \* `test_android_basic`
- \* `test_android_monkey`
- \* `test_android_0xbench`
- \* `submit_results_on_host`

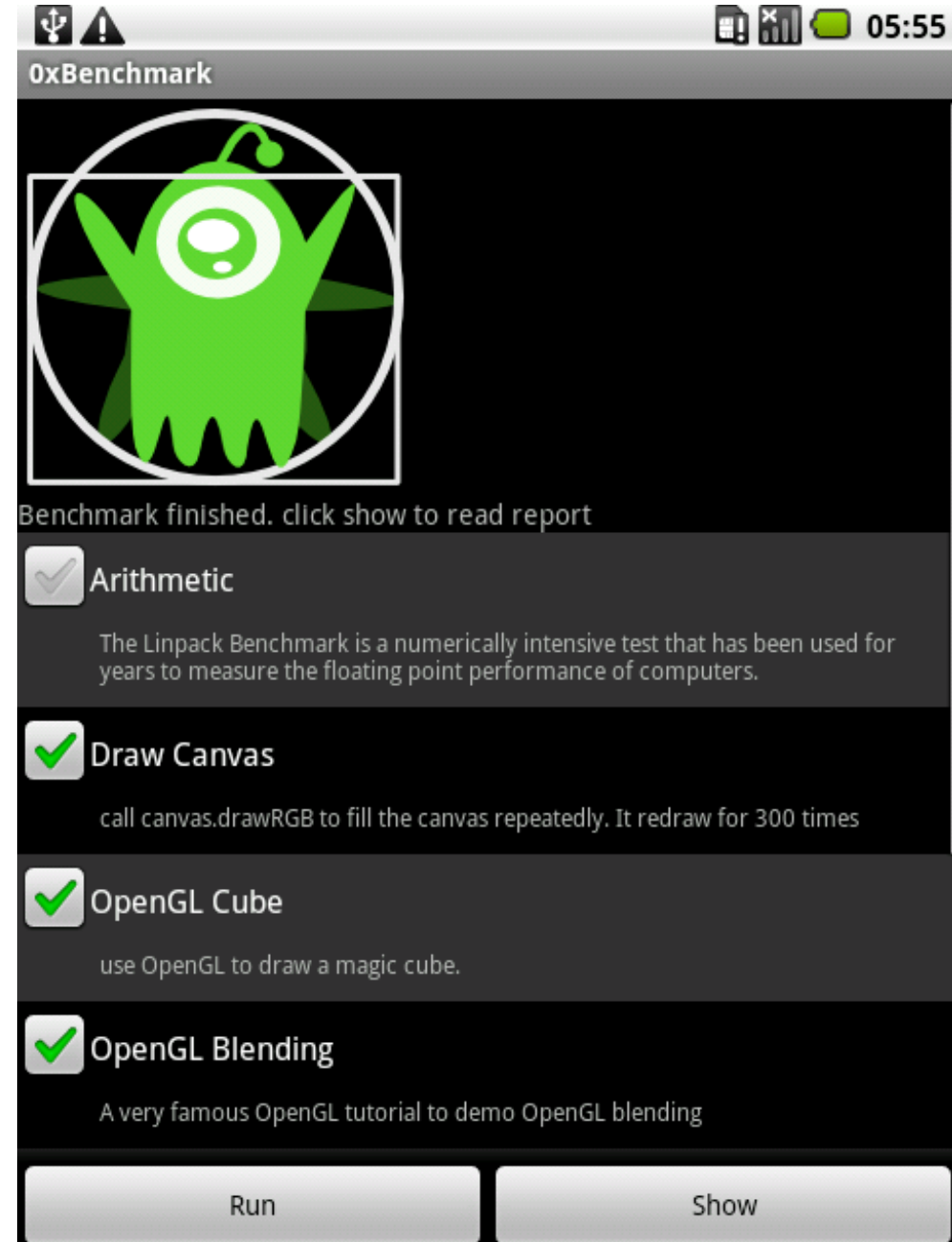
The screenshot shows the Launch Control web interface. At the top, it says "Launch Control" with a version of 0.3c10. Below that, there are navigation links: Home, Reports, Bundle Streams, and XML-RPC API. The "Reports" link is highlighted with a red "new" badge. The breadcrumb trail shows the user is in the "Bundle Streams" section for an "anonymous/android-beagle01-basic" device. Below this is a table with columns: Uploaded On (most recent first), Analyzed, Test, Run, Pass, Fail, Skip, and Unknown. The table contains four rows of test results, all of which passed.

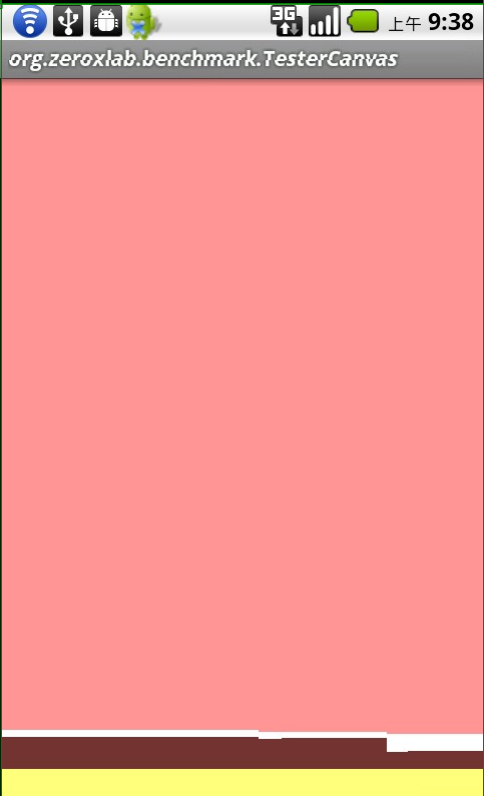
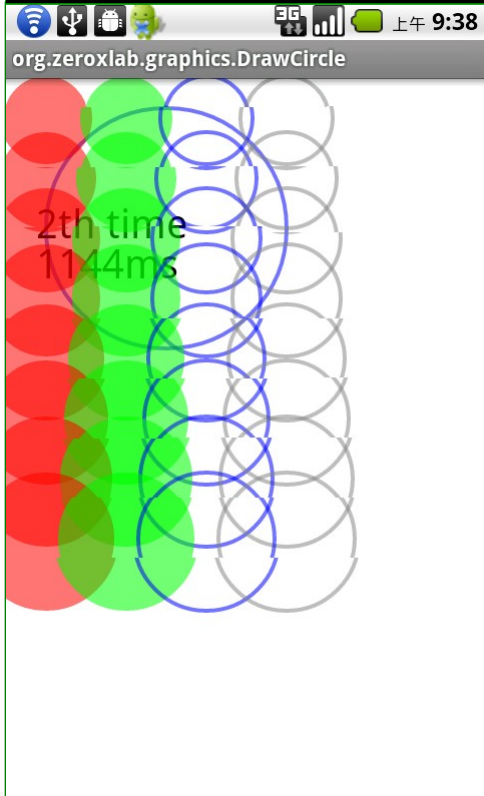
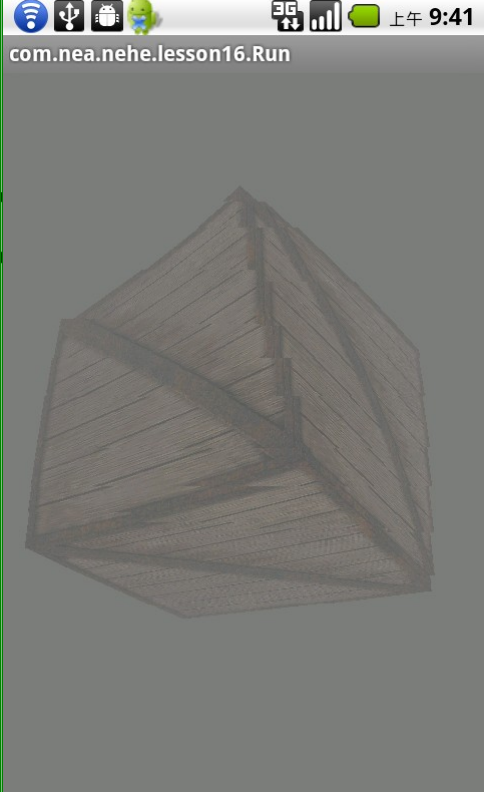
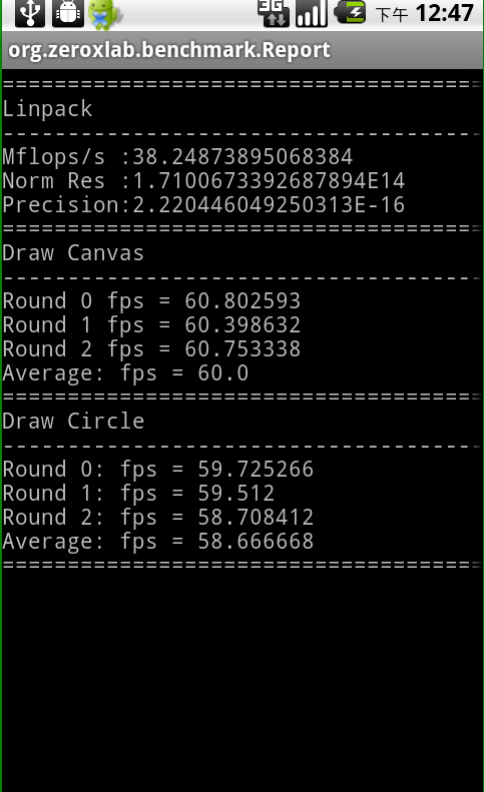
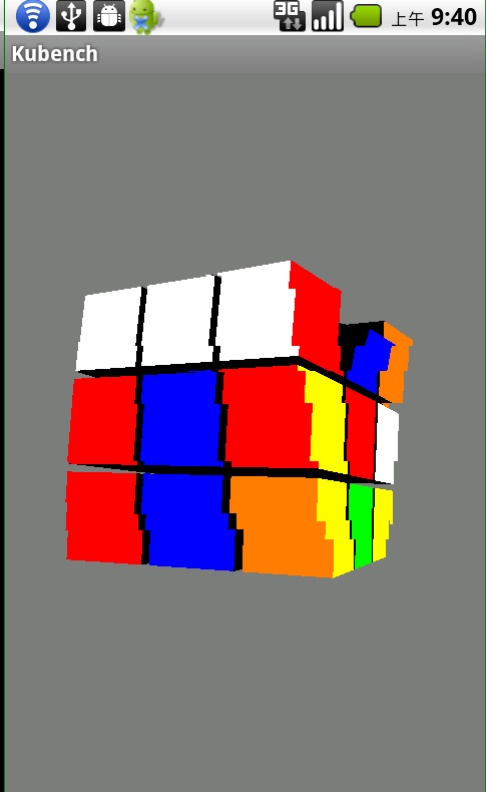
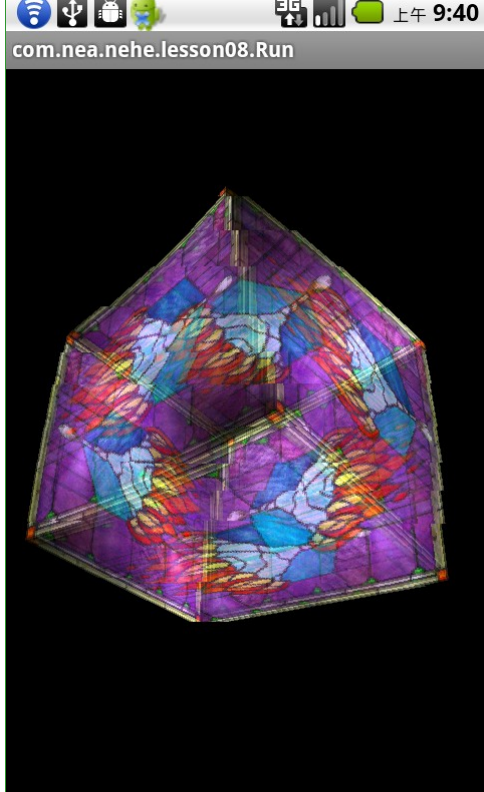
Uploaded On most recent first	Analyzed	Test	Run	Pass	Fail	Skip	Unknown
April 27, 2011 5:23 p.m.	1 day, 16 hours ago	basic	<a href="#">Test run 1b8ff0f0-70f3-11e0-b5f6-0026c747dbf8</a>	3	1	0	0
April 26, 2011 7:41 p.m.	2 days, 13 hours ago	basic	<a href="#">Test run 1e01c298-703d-11e0-a267-0026c747dbf8</a>	2	2	0	0
April 26, 2011 7:37 p.m.	2 days, 13 hours ago	basic	<a href="#">Test run a77e00c8-703c-11e0-8350-0026c747dbf8</a>	2	2	0	0
April 26, 2011 7:12 p.m.	2 days, 14 hours ago	basic	<a href="#">Test run 22336460-7039-11e0-b169-0026c747dbf8</a>	2	2	0	0



# Oxbench: comprehensive open source benchmark suite for Android

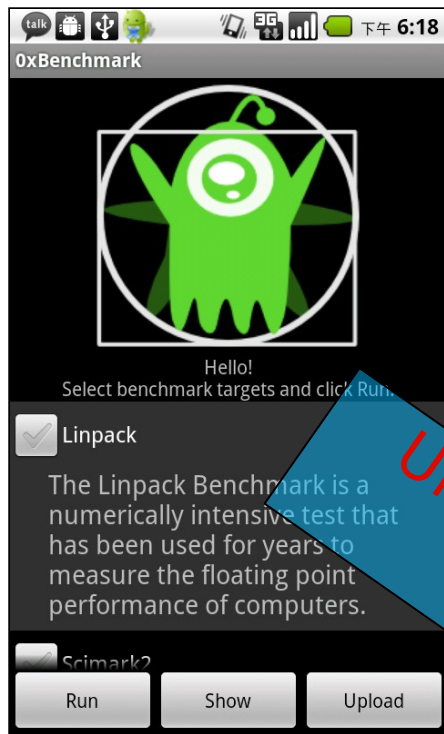
- A set of system utilities for Android to perform comprehensive system benchmarking
  - Dalvik VM performance
  - OpenGL|ES performance
  - Android Graphics framework performance
  - I/O performance
  - JavaScript engine performance
  - Connectivity performance
  - Micro-benchmark: standard C library, system call, latency, Java invocation, ...



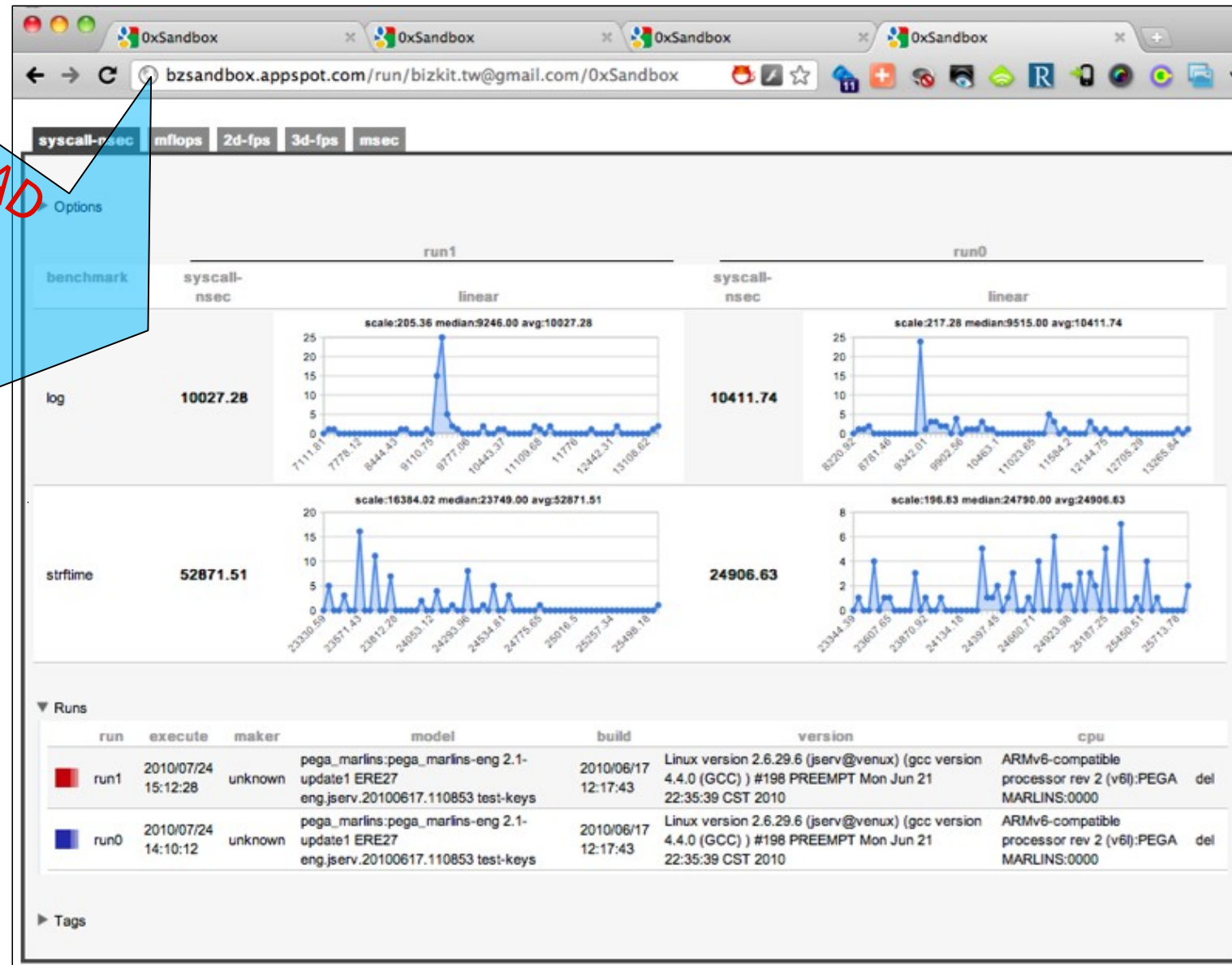




# Collect and Analyze results on server-side



UPLOAD





# Android Functional Testing

(1) stress test

(2) Automated test



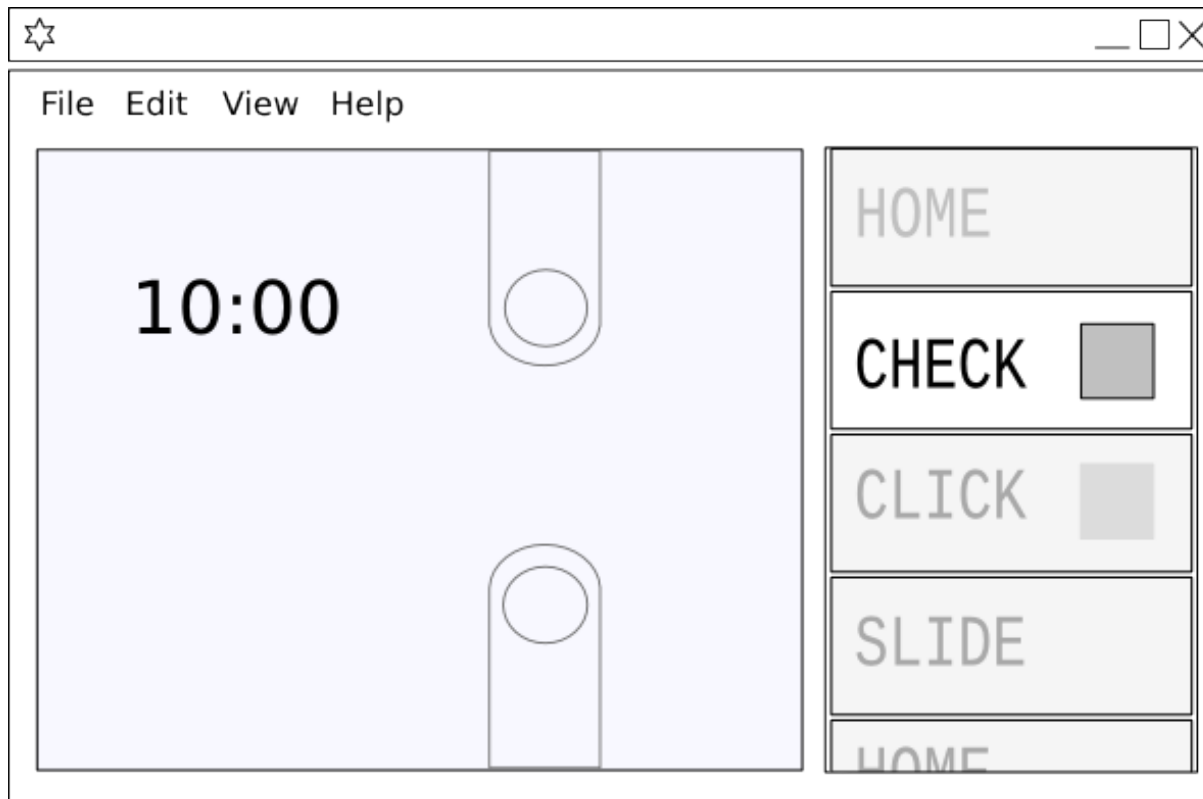
# Stress Test

- According to CDD (Compatibility Definition Document), Device implementations MUST include the Monkey framework, and make it available for applications to use.
- `monkey` is a command that can directly talks to Android framework and emulate random user input.  
**`adb shell monkey -p your.package.name -v 500`**
- Decide the percentage of touch events, keyboard events, etc., then run automatically.



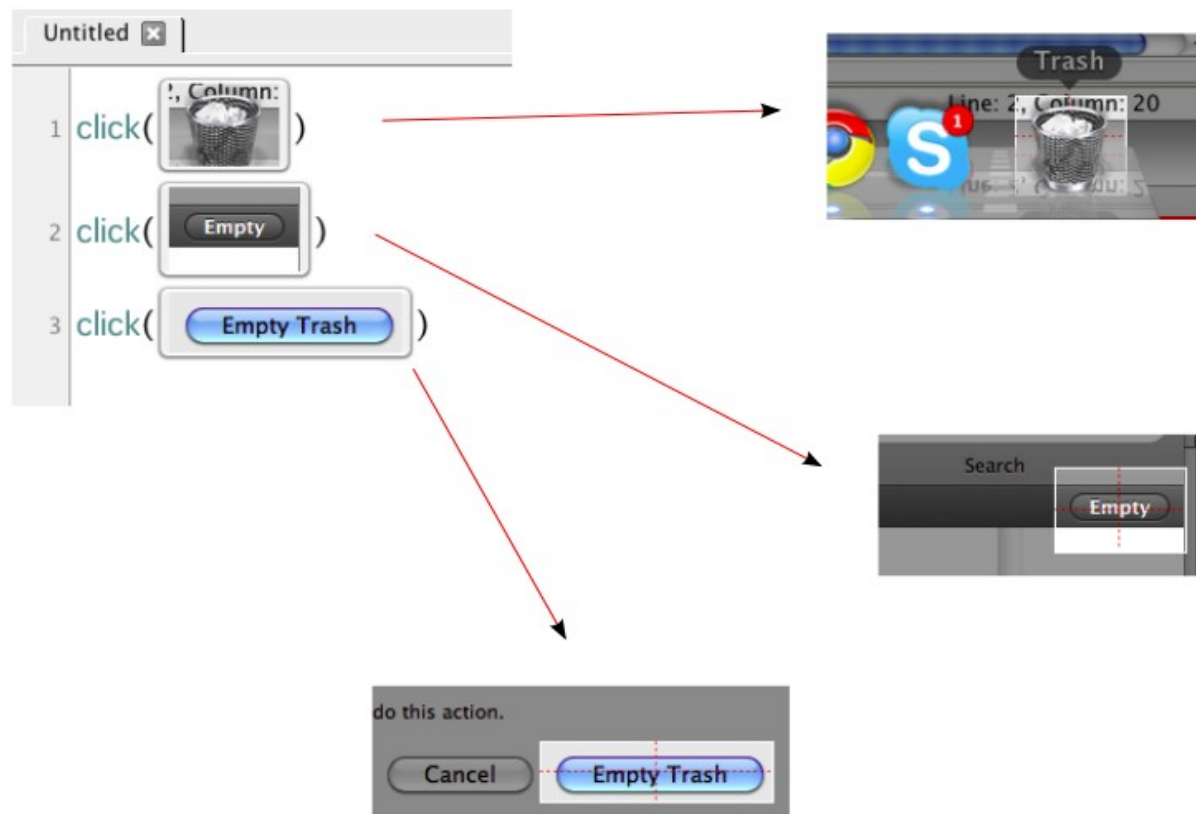
# ASTER: Automated Test

- Blackbox-test vs. Whitebox-test
- An easy to use automated testing tool.



## Functional Test

### Desktop: Sikuli



---

Aster

Designed for non-programmer

Easy to use IDE

Batch executing of test scripts

Multiple chain of recall command





Aster





Bring Enhancements back to  
Community










# What do we deliver to community?

- Patches merged in AOSP, CyanogenMod, and Android-x86
- Implement 100% open source OpenGL|ES adaptation based on Mesa/3D into Android
  - **The world-first, important to Android-x86**
- Performance: ARM specific optimizations, graphics enhancement
- Features: Bluetooth HID (keyboard/mouse), external modem, 3D effects, customized Launcher









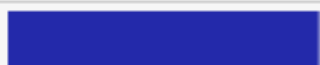


← run\_Nexus\_S:GRJ22\_2011/07/13-22:48:03UTC

benchmark →	mflops	logarithmic
Linpack	14.83	
Scimark2:COMPOSITE	20.64	
Scimark2:FTT	13.43	
Scimark2:SOR	36.67	
Scimark2:MONTECARLO	5.72	
Scimark2:SPARSEMATMULT	18.37	
Scimark2:LU	28.99	








Arithmetic on Nexus S

Tune Dalvik VM performance (armv7)

run\_Nexus\_S:GRJ90\_2011/08/03-18:11:16UTC

benchmark	mflops	logarithmic
Linpack	15.56	
Scimark2:COMPOSITE	21.84	
Scimark2:FTT	14.01	
Scimark2:SOR	38.53	
Scimark2:MONTECARLO	5.92	
Scimark2:SPARSEMATMULT	19.41	
Scimark2:LU	31.30	








← run\_Nexus\_S:GRJ22\_2011/07/13-22:48:03UTC

benchmark →	2d-fps	logarithmic
DrawCanvas	55.56	
DrawCircle	29.15	
DrawCircle2	51.23	
DrawRect	32.81	
DrawArc	47.12	
DrawImage	53.36	
DrawText	55.29	

## 2D on Nexus S

Apply extra performance tweaks against optimized build (NEON)

← run\_Nexus\_S:GRJ90\_2011/08/03-18:11:16UTC

benchmark →	2d-fps	logarithmic
DrawCanvas	56.06	
DrawCircle	33.19	
DrawCircle2	49.87	
DrawRect	42.42	
DrawArc	54.64	
DrawImage	55.85	
DrawText	55.44	

# Benchmark: 2D (arm1 1-custom)

mflps

2d-fps

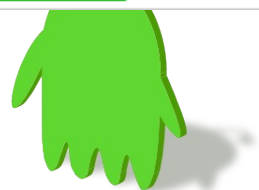
3d-fps

msec

Options

benchmark	advanced-performance2		advanced-performance		startpoint	
	2d-fps	linear	2d-fps	linear	2d-fps	linear
DrawCanvas	49.93	<div></div>	48.38	<div></div>	14.65	<div></div>
DrawCircle	23.29	<div></div>	22.68	<div></div>	10.32	<div></div>
DrawCircle2	18.84	<div></div>	18.80	<div></div>	9.77	<div></div>
DrawRect	7.64	<div></div>	8.80	<div></div>	5.76	<div></div>
DrawArc	14.92	<div></div>	14.32	<div></div>	8.40	<div></div>
DrawImage	5.59	<div></div>	5.50	<div></div>	3.10	<div></div>
DrawText	19.56	<div></div>	19.44	<div></div>	9.00	<div></div>

benchmark	M3 + Linaro Toolchain		M3		2.6.35 (2.6.32 pmem)	
	2d-fps	linear	2d-fps	linear	2d-fps	linear
DrawCanvas	58.35	<div></div>	58.57	<div></div>	38.64	<div></div>
DrawCircle	38.91	<div></div>	37.53	<div></div>	22.32	<div></div>
DrawCircle2	18.67	<div></div>	17.92	<div></div>	19.64	<div></div>
DrawRect	19.71	<div></div>	19.26	<div></div>	16.23	<div></div>
DrawArc	26.84	<div></div>	24.68	<div></div>	24.66	<div></div>
DrawImage	6.73	<div></div>	6.69	<div></div>	6.22	<div></div>
DrawImage2	19.16	<div></div>	19.06	<div></div>	15.69	<div></div>
DrawText	29.22	<div></div>	29.28	<div></div>	25.66	<div></div>



# Benchmark: 3D (arm11-custom; no GPU)

mflops 2d-fps 3d-fps msec

► Options

benchmark	advanced-performance2		advanced-performance		startpoint	
	3d-fps	linear	3d-fps	linear	3d-fps	linear
OpenGLCube	27.65	<div></div>	26.36	<div></div>	11.77	<div></div>
OpenGLBlending	15.21	<div></div>	15.06	<div></div>	8.78	<div></div>
OpenGLFog	14.03	<div></div>	13.86	<div></div>	8.36	<div></div>
FlyingTeapot	12.30	<div></div>	11.26	<div></div>	7.38	<div></div>

benchmark →	← M3 + Linaro Toolchain		← M3	
	3d-fps	linear	3d-fps	linear
OpenGLCube	29.06	<div></div>	29.04	<div></div>
OpenGLBlending	20.07	<div></div>	19.94	<div></div>
OpenGLFog	18.63	<div></div>	18.95	<div></div>
FlyingTeapot	17.49	<div></div>	17.04	<div></div>

This explains that we have several system tools and development flow to help customers/community to verify the performance and improve.



# Bionic libc

- Android C/C++ library
- 0xlab's Optimizations (merged in Android upstream)
  - Memory operations: Use ARMv6 unaligned access to optimize usual cases
  - Endian/Data Type conversion: Use ARMv6 fast endian primitives. Useful for TCP/IP (big endian / little endian converting)
  - Various ARM optimized string operations
    - memcpy, strcmp, strcpy, memset



# Dynamic Linker Optimizations

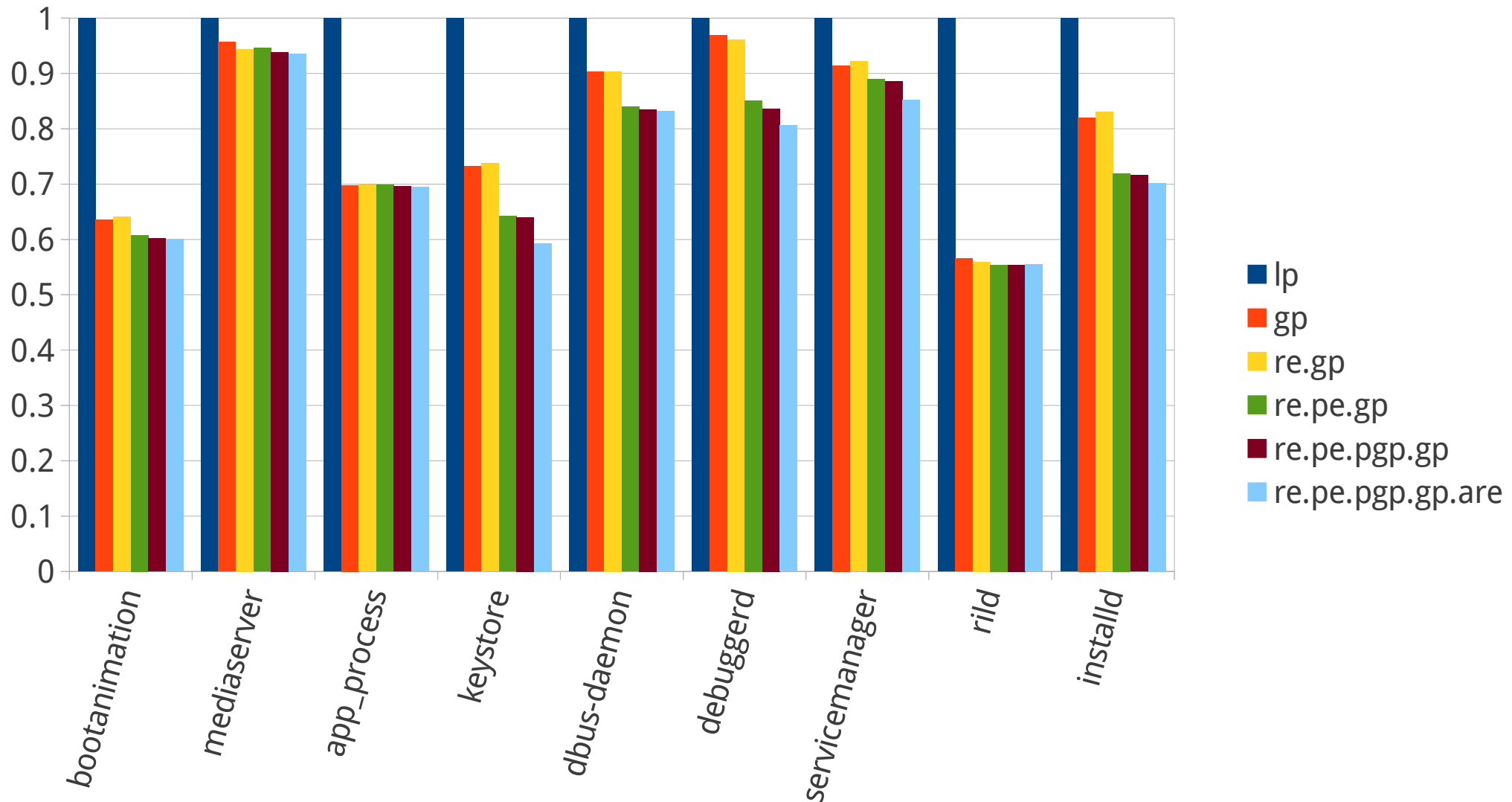


# Why and How?

- The major reason to optimize dynamic linker is to speed up application startup time.
- Approaches:
  - **Implement GNU style hash support for bionic linker**
  - **Prelinker improvements: incremental global prelinking**
    - reduce the number of ELF symbol lookup aggressively
- Changed parts
  - **apriori, sosl原因, linker, elfcopy, elfutils**

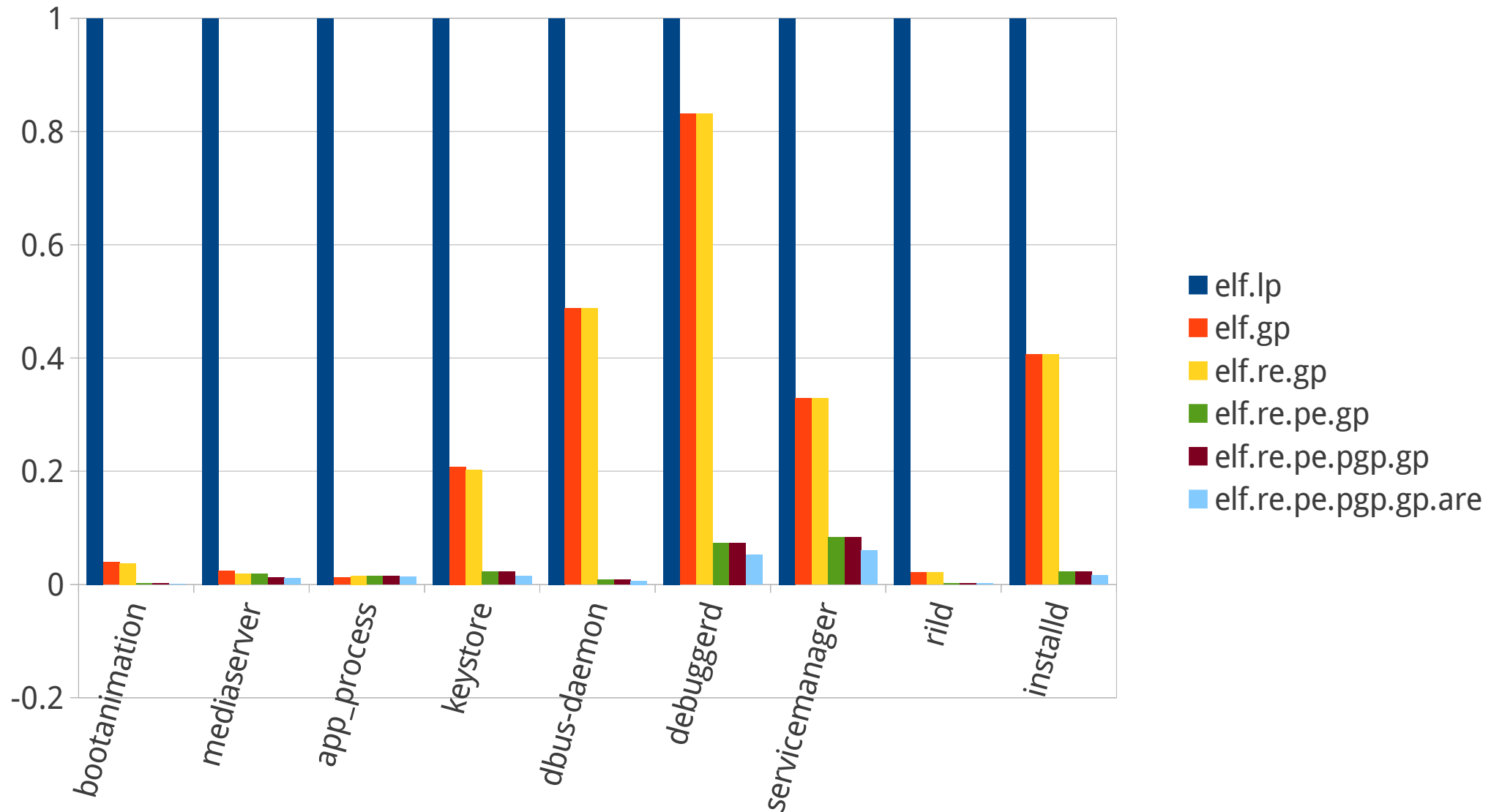


# (normalized) Dynamic Link time





# (normalized) Symbol Lookup number



DT\_GNU\_HASH: visible dynamic linking improvement =  
Better hash function (few collisions)  
+ Drop unnecessary entry from hash  
+ Bloom filter

libc.so  
printf

```
void foo () {  
    printf("fooooo");  
    bar();  
}
```

libfoo.so  
foo  
bar

libfoo.so	
DT_GNU_HASH	DT_HASH
foo	foo
bar	bar
	printf



	Symbols in ELF	lookup#	fail#	gnu hash	filtered by bloom
gnu.gp	3758	23702	19950	23310	18234(78%)
gnu.gp.re	3758	20544	16792	19604	14752(75%)
gnu.lp	61750	460996	399252	450074	345032(76%)
gnu.lp.re	61750	481626	419882	448492	342378(76%)

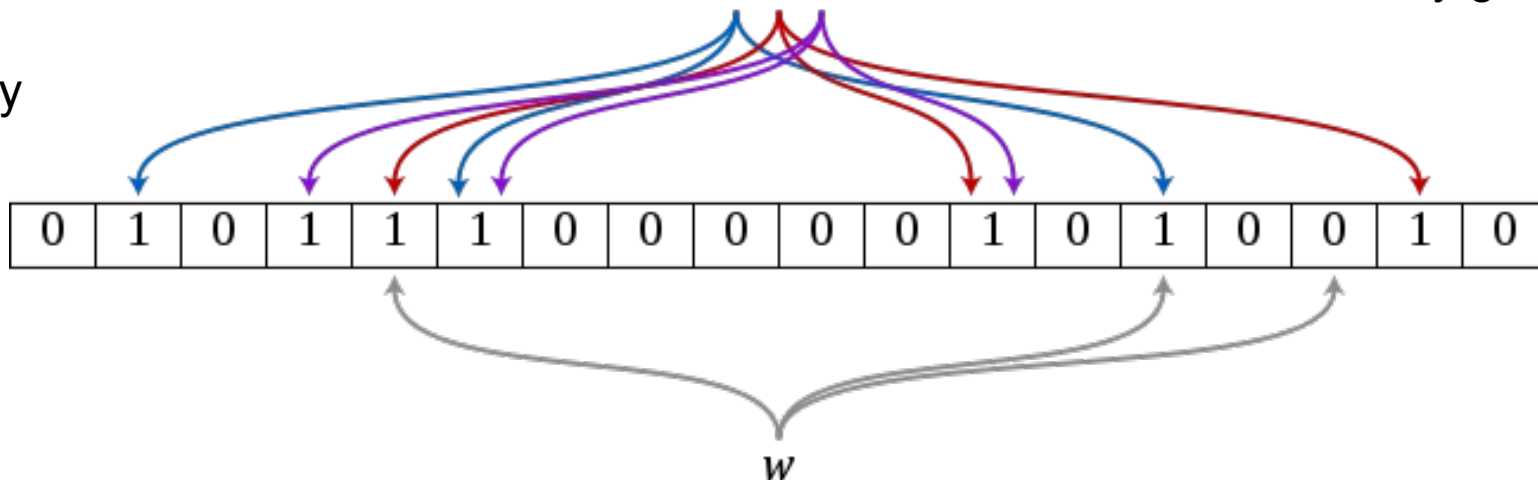
$H = \{x, y, z\}$  = hash functions

Hash function may collision

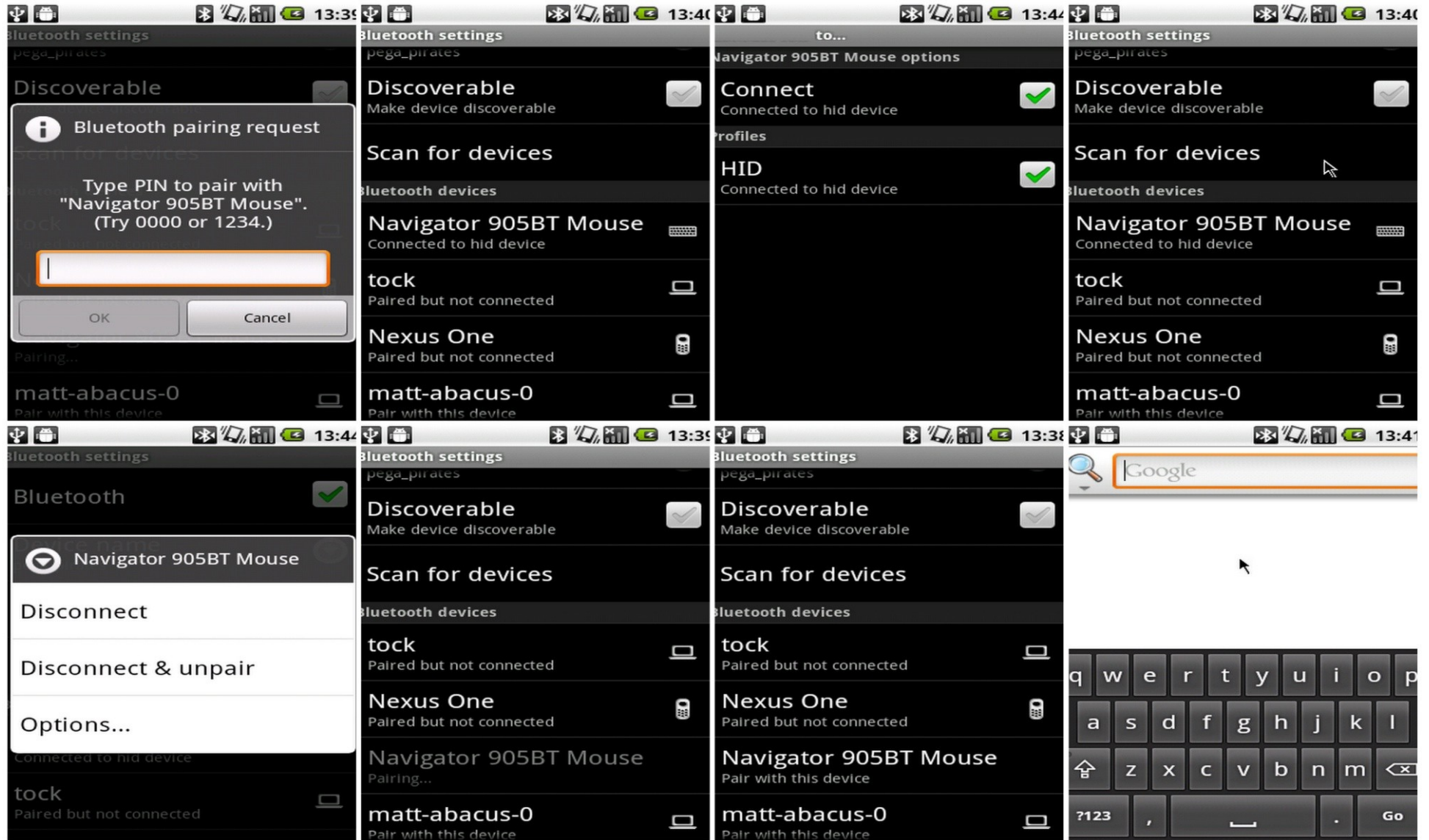
→ Bloom filter may got false positives

$\{x, y, z\}$

Bit array



# Bluetooth HID (Keyboard/Mouse)



# UI customizations

- Provide several UI/Launcher combination for small and large screen devices.
  - Sizing from HVGA, VGA, SVGA (Phone), to 720p/1080p (TV)
- Either modified Android Launcher or new replacement
- Licensed under Apache Software License



# Some UI Changes

- Hardware enablement: Beagleboard (TI OMAP3),

- BottomBar

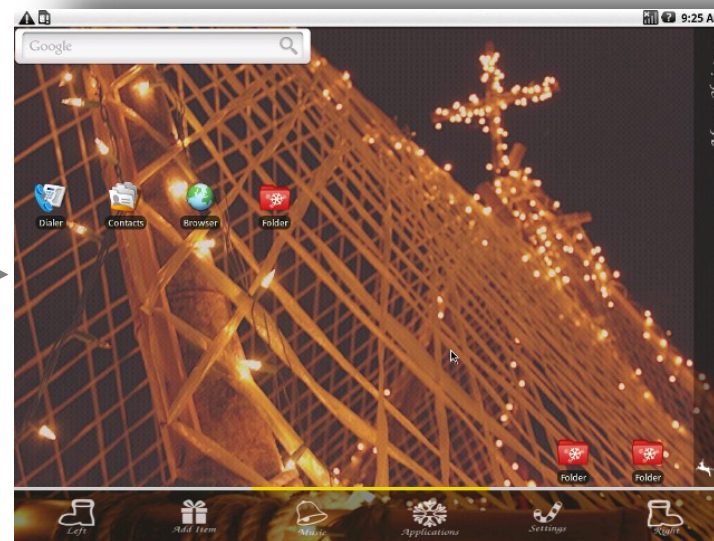
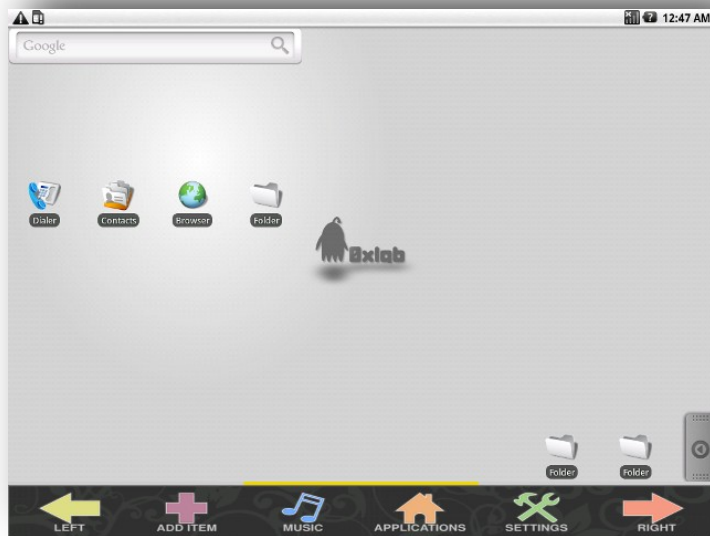
Source code: [http://gitorious.org/0xdroid/packages\\_apps\\_launcher](http://gitorious.org/0xdroid/packages_apps_launcher)

- PositionBar

Visible Hint

- ThemeSelector

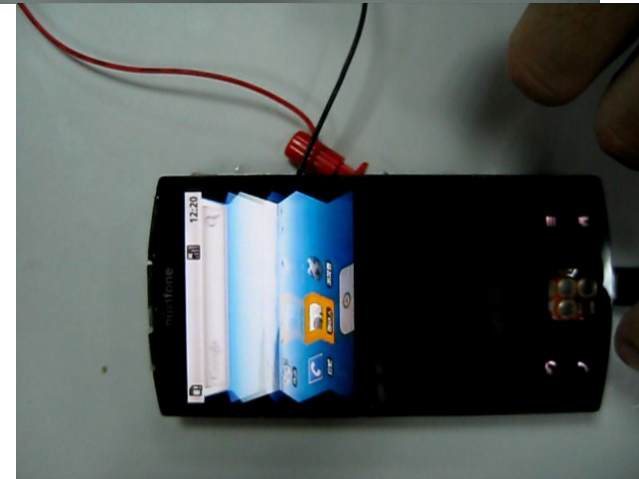
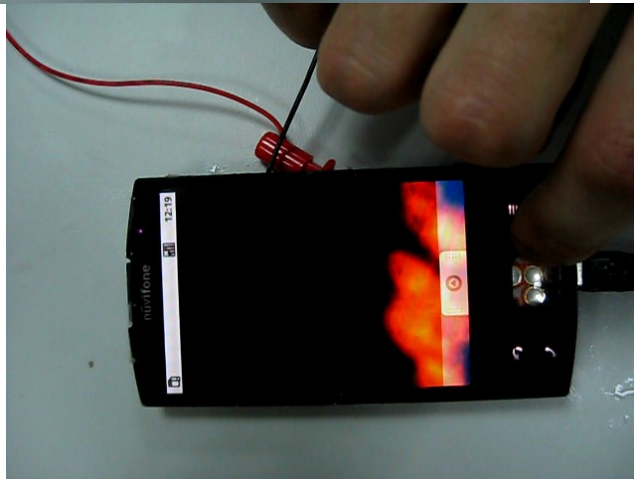
<http://code.google.com/p/0xdroid/wiki/LauncherTheme>





# Products with Advanced 3D UI

- 3D effects and the ARM optimizations are enabled in Qualcomm platforms: MSM7x27 (with GPU) and MSM7x25 (software only)



# Android Boot Time Optimizations





# Boot loader

- Qi Boot-loader
  - **Only one stage boot-loader**
  - **Small footprint ~30K**
  - **Currently support**
    - iMX31
    - Samsung 24xx
    - Beagleboard
  - **KISS concept**
    - Boot device and load kernel

	Qi Boot-oader	U-Boot + XLoader
Size	~30K	~270K+20K
Time to Kernel	< 1 s	> 5s
Usage	Product	Engineering
Code	Simple	Complicated



# Optimized ARM Hibernation

- Based on existing technologies thus requires little modification to userspace
  - **TuxOnIce**
- Release clean-pages before suspend
- Swap out dirty-pages before save image
- Image size reduced leads to faster resume time.



# Further Boot Time Optimization

- Save the heap image (like core dump) of Zygote after preloading classes
- Modify Dalvik to make hibernation image after system init and before Launcher startup
- Parallize Android init
- Cache & Share JITed code fragment



# Resources

- 0xdroid Roadmap:  
<http://code.google.com/p/0xdroid/wiki/Roadmap>
- Source repository: <http://gitorious.org/+0xlab>
- Wiki: <http://code.google.com/p/0xdroid/w/list>
- Demo videos: <http://www.youtube.com/0xlab>
- Mailing-list:
  - General discussion:  
<http://groups.google.com/group/0xlab-discuss>
  - Technical / Development:  
<http://groups.google.com/group/0xlab-devel>
- IRC channel (FreeNode): #0xlab



Thanks for Attending

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Any Questions?





<http://0xlab.org>